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SUBJECT	Associated Press Backs Up Information Concerning the Ex-MFTI of Jerusalem		DATE 9 Jan 53

PERTINENT INFORMATION

Fifty-five year-old Haj Amin al-HUSSEINI lives in a luxurios garden villa near Heliopolis, northern Cairo suburb, with special Egyptian police guards outside the garden wall and his own private Palestinian guards armed with Tommy guns patrolling inside.

He seldom leaves this compound but when he does he is accompanied by several armed bodyguards.

Security precautions have been tightened recently following the assassination, although he, himself, issued a statement disclaiming any connection.

But the former MFTI, who was kicked out of Palestine by British mandate authorities just before the last war—charged with inciting Arab-Jew riots resulting in many deaths—himself has many enemies.

The core of his "nationalists," anti-British following, spread thinly throughout the Arab and Moslem world, is concerned about Palestinians—many of whom now are living in other Arab countries since Israel was created.

But many Palestinians who hold him responsible for terroristic assassinations of his relatives in his ruthless struggle for power in Palestine in the mid-thirties are his bitter foes.

American and British Middle East diplomats discount him completely despite his claims that his sole purpose is to obtain an independent Arab Palestine.

He's leaked on as a trouble maker and the Allies have not forgotten his help to the Axis during the war after he fled to Germany from Palestine.

There are rumors—unconfirmed—that the MFTI is now playing footsie with Russia in an attempt to gain power holding on to his personal ambitions to become a great political power in the Moslem world.

Inspeclavin is reported to be watching him closely, recalling that the Nazis used the MFTI to stir up trouble among the Moslems in eastern "Uzakavia," and fearful that the Soviet might try similar tactics.

Captured in Germany at the end of the last war, the MFTI escaped mysteriously from French custody in 1946 and was accepted by Egypt as a political exile. How he made his escape is still a closely guarded secret.

Asylum was granted to the MFTI directly by the Palace. For the last five years Haj Amin has been seen every now and then at official receptions and has been regarded as a handy man to have on the Egyptian side to counter-balance King Abdullah's ambitions in Palestine.

But lately there have been rumors that the official view here is seeing to regard him as a hot potato and indicate as one that Egypt would be happy to get rid of elsewhere. The MFTI got a cold reception from al-Azhar officials regard his selection as MFTY in 1929, as unfortunate, because he did not have the theological training essential for the position.

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